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Financing of the activities arising from Security Council resolution 687 (1991): United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Haile Selassie **Getachew** (Ethiopia)

I. Introduction

1. At its 19th plenary meeting, on 20 September 2002, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Financing of the activities arising from Security Council resolution 687 (1991): United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. The Fifth Committee considered the item at its 54th and 56th meetings, on 22 May and 4 June 2003. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/57/SR.54 and 56).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the performance of the budget of the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission for the period from 1 July 2001 to 30 June 2002 (A/57/665);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the budget for the Observation Mission for the period from 1 July 2003 to 30 June 2004 (A/57/664 and Corr.1);

(c) Note by the Secretary-General on the financing of the Observation Mission for the period from 1 July 2003 to 30 June 2004 (A/57/811);

(d) Report of the Secretary-General on the overview of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations: budget performance for the period from

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1 July 2001 to 30 June 2002 and budget for the period from 1 July 2003 to 30 June 2004 (A/57/723);

(e) Reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/57/772, para. 6, and A/57/813).

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.5/57/L.81

4. At the 57th meeting, on 4 June, the representative of New Zealand and coordinator of informal consultations on the item introduced, on behalf of the Chairman, a draft resolution entitled "Financing of the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission" (A/C.5/57/L.81).

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/57/L.81 without a vote (see para. 6).

III. Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

6. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Financing of the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission

The General Assembly,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission[1] and the related reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

Recalling Security Council resolutions 687 (1991) of 3 April 1991 and 689 (1991) of 9 April 1991, by which the Council decided to establish the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission and to review the question of its termination or continuation every six months,

Recalling also its resolution 45/260 of 3 May 1991 on the financing of the Observation Mission and its subsequent resolutions and decisions thereon, the latest of which was resolution 56/297 of 27 June 2002,

Reaffirming the general principles underlying the financing of United Nations peacekeeping operations, as stated in General Assembly resolutions 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, 3101 (XXVIII) of 11 December 1973 and 55/235 of 23 December 2000,

Expressing its appreciation for the substantial voluntary contributions made to the Observation Mission by the Government of Kuwait and the contributions of other Governments,

[1] A/57/664 and Corr.1, A/57/665, A/57/723 and A/57/811.
[2] A/57/772, para. 6 and A/57/813.

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Observation Mission with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

1. *Takes note* of the status of contributions to the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission as at 31 March 2003, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 10.2 million United States dollars, representing some 3 per cent of the total assessed contributions, notes with concern that only thirty-six Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States, in particular those in arrears, to ensure the payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

2. *Expresses its continued appreciation* of the decision of the Government of Kuwait to defray two thirds of the cost of the Observation Mission, effective 1 November 1993;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States which have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the Observation Mission in full;

4. *Expresses concern* at the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursements to troop contributors that bear additional burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

5. *Also expresses concern* at the delay experienced by the Secretary-General in deploying and providing adequate resources to some recent peacekeeping missions, in particular those in Africa;

6. *Emphasizes* that all future and existing peacekeeping missions shall be given equal and non-discriminatory treatment in respect of financial and administrative arrangements;

7. *Also emphasizes* that all peacekeeping missions shall be provided with adequate resources for the effective and efficient discharge of their respective mandates;

8. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to make the fullest possible use of facilities and equipment at the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, in order to minimize the costs of procurement for the Observation Mission;

9. *Endorses* the recommendation contained in paragraph 5 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[3] and requests the Secretary-General to ensure its full implementation;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Observation Mission is administered with maximum efficiency and economy;

11. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in order to reduce the cost of employing General Service staff, to continue efforts to recruit local staff for the Observation Mission against General Service posts, commensurate with the requirements of the Observation Mission;

[3] A/57/813.

Financial performance report for the period from 1 July 2001 to 30 June 2002

12. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the report of the Secretary-General on the financial performance of the Observation Mission for the period from 1 July 2001 to 30 June 2002,[4] and of the treatment of the unencumbered balance and other income in the total amount of 6,443,300 United States dollars in respect of the financial period ended 30 June 2002, at the main part of its fifty-eighth session;

Budget estimates for the period from 1 July 2003 to 30 June 2004

13. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the budget of the Observation Mission[5] and the note of the Secretary-General on the financing of the Observation Mission for the period from 1 July 2003 to 30 June 2004;[6]

14. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to enter into commitments in an amount not exceeding 12 million dollars for the period from 1 July to 31 October 2003, to be financed from the accumulated fund balance in the Special Account for the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission;

15. *Emphasizes* that no peacekeeping mission shall be financed by borrowing funds from other active peacekeeping missions;

16. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to take additional measures to ensure the safety and security of all personnel under the auspices of the United Nations participating in the Observation Mission;

17. *Invites* voluntary contributions to the Observation Mission in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure and practices established by the General Assembly;

18. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session, under the item entitled "Financing of the activities arising from Security Council resolution 687 (1991)", the sub-item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission".

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[4] A/57/665.
[5] A/57/664 and Corr.1.
[6] A/57/811.